

May 28, 1999

Dr. Jane Henney, Commissioner  
U.S. FDA  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Dr. Henney,

I am writing this letter today to urge the FDA to ban all non-essential uses of antibiotics in agriculture, especially as relates to farm/food animals. The small benefits to the farmers and large meat supplying groups do not outweigh the risk to the American family resulting from the overuse of antibiotics in this country.

My doctor and I should be in control of my own family's medical program! As a concerned and educated consumer of physician services, I choose not to use more antibiotic product than is absolutely necessary; I will not risk the loss of efficacy of drug therapy when I may require it in the future. We need to follow the recommendation of the 1997 Report of the **World Health Organization** and end the use in animal feed of all antibiotics used in human medicine, as well as all closely related drugs. The **Center for Disease Control** has also urged those precautions. As you are aware, a number of countries in Europe took strong action along those lines. Why do we not follow suit? Is our health to be held captive by special interests in the agricultural sector?

Again, I urge you to limit new uses of antibiotics in agriculture and to revoke approval for the existing uses of six antibiotics in animal feed. Do not wait until we have a full-scale national crisis in health care in this country.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Sandra H. Shibata*

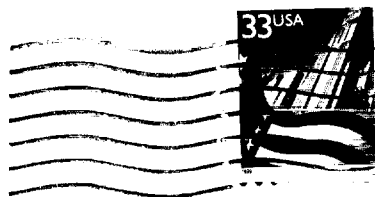
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